

VICTORIAN ESSENTIAL LEARNING STANDARDS: THE HUMANITIES – STANDARDS

	Humanities, knowledge and understanding	Humanities skills
	During Levels 1 to 3, students are introduced to basic concepts related to history, geography and economics under a general umbrella of ‘The Humanities’. Each level includes a learning focus statement with standards introduced from Level 3. Specific learning focus statements and standards for Economics, Geography and History are introduced at Level 4.	
Dimension description	The <i>Humanities knowledge and understanding</i> dimension focuses on key humanities knowledge and concepts. Students learn about their immediate and local community and environment and are introduced to the history and geography of their country and the diversity of culture and environment. Through structured activities they learn the concepts of time – chronology and sequencing, change and continuity – and spatial concepts of location, distance, scale and distribution.	The <i>Humanities skills</i> dimension focuses on the development of basic inquiry skills including observation, the collection of various types of evidence, asking and answering questions about evidence and presenting information in a variety of ways.
Level 1	Standards do not apply at this level. See the learning focus at http://vels.vcaa.vic.edu.au	Standards do not apply at this level. See the learning focus at http://vels.vcaa.vic.edu.au
Level 2	Standards do not apply at this level. See the learning focus at http://vels.vcaa.vic.edu.au	Standards do not apply at this level. See the learning focus at http://vels.vcaa.vic.edu.au
Level 3	At Level 3, students describe and sequence some key events in Australian history, some key commemorations and celebrations including Anzac Day, and key aspects of the histories of cultural groups that make up their class, community and nation. They describe how aspects of places in their local area have changed over time. From direct observation or observation of a variety of media, they describe the human and physical characteristics of their local area and other parts of Victoria. They describe how people use and affect different environments in Victoria.	At Level 3, students use a range of historical evidence, including oral history, artefacts, narratives and pictures, to retell events and describe historical characters. They develop simple timelines to show events in sequence. They explain some of the differences between different types of historical evidence, and frame questions to further explore historical events. Students draw simple maps and plans of familiar environments observing basic mapping conventions. They identify the location of places on a simple map using an alphanumeric grid and describe direction using the four cardinal compass points. Using atlas maps and a globe, they locate and name the states and territories of Australia.